## **Claims**

1. A method for detecting an analyte by a redox reaction and a fluorimetric determination, comprising contacting a sample containing the analyte with a detection reagent which contains a compound of the general formula (I) as a fluorimetric redox indicator:

$$(R^3)_n O$$

$$(R^3$$

wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each independently selected from R,  $(CH_2CH_2O)_mR$ , COR, COOR and OCOR,

R<sup>3</sup> in each case is independently selected from NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, R, OR, OCOR, COOR, SR and halogen,

R is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, where alkyl is optionally substituted with halogen, OR, SR, NR<sub>2</sub>, COOR, CONR<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>3</sub>R and salts thereof or/and PO(OR)<sub>3</sub> and salts thereof,

m is an integer from 1-20 and n is 1, 2 or 3.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl group substituted with OH.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein  $R^3$  is  $NO_2$ .

- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the redox indicator (I) can directly accept electrons.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the redox indicator (I) can accept electrons via a mediator.
- 6. The method of claim 5, wherein an oxidizable substance is detected as the analyte.
- 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the detection reagent further comprises one or more enzymes for reducing or oxidizing the analyte and optionally a coenzyme.
- 8. The method of claim 6, wherein glucose, lactate, alcohol, galactose, cholesterol, fructose, glycerol, pyruvate, creatinine, alanine, phenylalanine, leucine, triglycerides or HDL cholesterol are detected as analytes.
- 9. The method of claim 6, wherein glucose is detected using glucose oxidase, glucose dye oxidoreductase or glucose dehydrogenase/diaphorase.
- 10. The method of claim 5, wherein an enzyme catalysing a redox reaction or an enzyme whose reaction can be coupled to an oxidoreductase reaction is detected as the analyte.
- 11. The method of claim 10, wherein glutamate-oxalacetate transaminase (GOT), (AST), glutamate-pyruvate transaminase (GPT), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) or creatine kinase (CK) are detected as analytes.
- 12. A reagent for detecting an analyte by a redox reaction and a fluorimetric determination, comprising a compound of the general formula (I):

wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each independently selected from R,  $(CH_2CH_2O)_mR$ , COR, COOR and OCOR,

 $R^3$  in each case is independently selected from NO2, CN, R, OR, OCOR, COOR, SR and halogen,

R is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, where alkyl is optionally substituted with halogen, OR, SR, NR<sub>2</sub>, COOR, CONR<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>3</sub>R and salts thereof or/and PO(OR)<sub>3</sub> and salts thereof,

m is an integer from 1-20, and n is 1, 2 or 3.

13. The reagent of claim 12, further comprising components selected from enzymes, coenzymes, auxiliary substances, buffers and mediators.